

Williamsburg Code of Conduct

Student Responsibilities

Students are to be treated with respect and dignity. In return, they must demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for the responsibilities of citizenship through acceptable behaviour.

Respect and responsibility are demonstrated when a student:

- comes to school prepared, on time and ready to learn
- shows respect for themselves, others and for those in authority
- refrains from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others
- follows the established rules and takes responsibility for his or her own actions

School Expectations

“Our Five Agreements”

Williamsburg students, staff and community will conduct themselves in such a way that these five agreements are at the center of each and every decision that we make before we act.

- We see each other
- We respect each other
- We support each other
- We care for each other
- We say something

Addressing Bullying “Our 4 R’s of Bullying Preventions”

Williamsburg students will be encouraged to use these 4R’s in order to prevent and address bullying at all times:

Recognize

- Know what bullying looks like, sounds like and feels like
- Understand the difference between bullying and conflict

Refuse

- If you don't like what you see happening, invite the victim to walk away with you
- Choose an upstander action

Report

- Report facts to a trusting adult
- Know the difference between "tattling" and reporting

Restore

- Choose to make positive choices
- Be a part of the solution
- Choose to be an upstander

Cell phone and personal devices at school

Cell phones must be turned off and kept in school bag in lockers at all times when on school property as per DDSB policy unless given permission by a teacher. Inappropriate use of cell phones or other items listed above will result in the items being confiscated until the end of the school day. Parents will be contacted if repeated misuse occurs.

Lockers

Intermediate students may use lockers at entry, recess and lunch times only.

Bicycles

Students who bring bicycles to school do so at their own risk. Bicycles are not to be ridden on school property, they are to be wheeled on and off school property and securely locked in the bicycle rack when not in use. According to the Traffic Act, all students must wear a helmet. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure the use of protective head gear (approved helmet). The school cannot be responsible for loss or damage to the bicycle.

Code of Conduct -Standards of Behaviour

The Durham District School Board and Williamsburg P. S. support the provincial standards of behaviour which include respect, civility, responsible citizenship and physical safety. All participants involved in the publicly funded school system –students, parents or guardians, volunteers, teachers and other staff members – are included in this Code of Conduct whether they are on school property, in the community, on school buses or at school-authorized events or activities. Recognition and acceptance of, and sensitivity toward, ethnocultural diversity are expectations of and within the school community. Finally, the Durham District School Board and Williamsburg P.S., does not tolerate the use or abuse of alcohol, illegal drugs and/or intoxicants within its jurisdiction and will respond accordingly as per Board Policy and Regulation.

Respect, Civility and Responsible Citizenship

All school members must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws;
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity;
- Respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions;

- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement;
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability;
- Respect the rights of others;
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others;
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- Respect persons who are in a position of authority;
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment of learning and teaching.

Progressive Discipline

Our school supports a proactive approach to discipline. Progressive Discipline will be the underlying philosophical approach to determining the consequences for students whose behaviour is deemed to be inappropriate. It is our belief that students who experience logical and realistic consequences learn that they have positive control over their lives. Progressive discipline helps students to learn to make responsible decisions and solve problems independently.

Progressive discipline also leaves student dignity intact. High expectations for responsible and mature behaviour help to create a structure that serves as a backbone to teaching/learning and promotes a safe school environment.

Students who do not comply with the School Rules and Expectations outlined in the Code of Conduct will be dealt with in a fair and considerable manner. Actions taken will depend on the circumstances of each individual case. Consequences will be flexible enough to accommodate varying levels of student maturity, and progressive enough to allow recurring or more serious offences to be consequence more firmly.

Mitigating factors will be considered before determining consequences. The following are possible consequences that may be considered for inappropriate behaviour. These are not in sequential order.

- An informal or formal interview
- Problem solving exercises
- Counselling
- Loss of privileges
- Parental contact letter/phone/note in the agenda
- Temporary removal from class, yard, activity or event
- Classroom or Office detention
- Development of a behaviour contract with teachers/S.E.R.T.

- Compensation by students to the school, another student or a teacher for the damage, loss or destruction of property
- Out of school suspension
- Police involvement
- Expulsion

Suspension

Suspension is a consequence imposed upon a student whereby he or she is prohibited from attending at his or her school and from engaging in all school-related activities for a defined period of time.

Circumstances Leading to Possible Suspension

A student may be suspended, depending on the circumstances, if the student commits any of the following infractions while he or she is at the school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate:

- Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person;
- Possessing alcohol or illegal drugs;
- Being under the influence of alcohol;
- Swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority;
- Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at the pupil's school or to property located on the premises of the pupil's school;
- Bullying (***) Bullying, as defined by the Ministry of Education: "Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual(s) that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, distress, and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance."); or
- Any other activity that is an activity for which a principal may suspend a pupil under a policy of the Board.

A suspension can be no less than one school day / no more than 20 school days. Some instances may require police involvement.

Circumstances Leading to a Suspension, Investigation, and Possible Expulsion

A student will be suspended if engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity or in any other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have a negative impact on the school climate:

- Possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm;
- Using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person;

- Committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner;
- Committing sexual assault;
- Trafficking in weapons or in illegal drugs;
- Committing robbery;
- Giving alcohol to a minor;
- Any other activity that, under a policy of the Board, is an activity for which a Principal must suspend a student and conduct an investigation to determine whether to recommend to the board that pupil be expelled.

A student may be suspended up to 20 school days (may lead to an expulsion). These circumstances all require police involvement.